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Extensions of ongoing country programmes

Note by the secretariat

Summary

In accordance with Executive Board decision 2009/11, this note informs the Executive Board of the first one-year extensions of the country programmes for Cabo Verde, the Central African Republic, Chile, the Dominican Republic, Gabon, Kyrgyzstan, Mauritania and Ukraine, approved by the Executive Director.

The note further presents the reasons for the proposed one-year extensions of the country programmes for Burkina Faso and Yemen, following one-year extensions; and the proposed two-year extensions of the country programmes for the Philippines and Senegal. The Executive Board is requested to approve these programme extensions.

Draft decision

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the one-year extensions of the country programmes for Cabo Verde, the Central African Republic, Chile, the Dominican Republic, Gabon, Kyrgyzstan, Mauritania and Ukraine, which were approved by the Executive Director, as presented in table 1.

2. *Approves* the second one-year extensions of the country programmes for Burkina Faso and Yemen, and the two-year extensions of the country programmes for the Philippines and Senegal, as presented in table 2.

* E/ICEF/2016/5.

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Table 1
First extensions of one year (or less) of ongoing country programmes approved by the Executive Director

UNICEF-assisted country programme	*Original programme period*	*Year/period approved for extension*	*Reasons for the extension*
Cabo Verde	2012-2016	2017 (one-year extension)	– The country will hold parliamentary, presidential and local elections between the first and third quarters of 2016, which will delay the national planning calendar. Preparation of the new national Strategy Document for Growth and Poverty Reduction will only start once the new Government is formed. – To align with the one-year extension of the 2012-2016 United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), which will ensure that the new United Nations programmatic framework is aligned with the priorities established in the national Strategy Document. – To align with the one-year extensions being sought by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), noting that Cabo Verde is a joint office.
Central African Republic	2012-2016	2017 (one-year extension)	– Neither the current 2012-2016 UNDAF nor the Poverty Reduction Strategic Plan were fully implemented, due to a crisis that erupted in 2012 that led to the development of a United Nations interim framework aligned with the Government's transition road map. – To align the work of UNICEF with the priorities established by a newly elected Government.
Chile	2012-2016	2017 (one-year extension)	– The one-year extension aims to respond to emerging government priorities and new significant partnerships with government institutions that are addressing children's rights.
Dominican Republic	2012-2016	2017 (one-year extension)	– The one-year extension is based on a request from the Government to extend the 2012-2016 UNDAF. – As 2016 is an election year, the extension of the UNDAF and subsequent extension of the country programme documents (CPDs) of United Nations agencies will allow the agencies to align the priorities of the future programme of cooperation with those of the newly elected Government.
Gabon	2012-2016	2017 (one-year extension)	– Following the review of the 2011-2016 national strategic plan in 2015, the Government will make adjustments to the plan, which will serve to inform the development of a new national strategic plan for 2017-2021. – The Government has requested United Nations agencies to align their assistance framework with the yet-to-be-developed national strategic plan for 2017-2021.

UNICEF-assisted country programme	*Original programme period*	*Year/period approved for extension*	*Reasons for the extension*
Kyrgyzstan	2012-2016	2017 (one-year extension)	– To align with the National Sustainable Development Strategy for the Kyrgyz Republic for the period 2013-2017, and with the national Programme for Transition to Sustainable Development 2013-2017.
Mauritania	2012-2016	2017 (one-year extension)	– To align with the UNDAF, which has been extended until 2017. – To allow the United Nations country team to better support the Government during the elaboration of the 2016-2030 national development strategy (the Accelerated Growth and Shared Prosperity Strategy), which will be developed during the third and fourth quarters of 2016.
Ukraine	2012-2016	2017 (one-year extension)	– To align with the request of the Government to extend the 2012-2016 UNDAF for one year.

Table 2
Extensions of ongoing country programmes for which the approval of the Executive Board is requested

UNICEF-assisted country programme	*Original programme period, including previous extensions*	*Period proposed for extension*	*Reasons for extension*		
			In-country development	*United Nations harmonization*	*Implementation or other issues*
Burkina Faso	2011-2015 (previously extended to 2016)	2017 (one-year extension)	The Delivering as One Steering Committee recommended an extension of the UNDAF to align United Nations support with the national priorities included in the second cycle of the Strategy for Accelerated Growth and Sustainable Development, which was extended until April 2016.	The extension of the CPD will allow for alignment with the UNDAF.	– Presidential and legislative elections were held in November 2015 and the new President was sworn in on 29 December 2015. – The new Government established a multi-stakeholder working group to formulate a national social and economic development programme in the first semester of 2016. – The UNDAF extension will ensure consistency with the national priorities being finalized by the Government.
Philippines	2012-2016	2017-2018 (two-year extension)	The extension will allow for alignment with the extension of the Government's Philippines Development Plan to 2018, and take into account the impact of the 2016 national elections on country programme planning.	The extension will allow for the harmonization of the country programme cycle with other United Nations agencies, in line with the 2012-2018 UNDAF.	– As the Government will hold national elections in 2016, there will not be sufficient time for partners to engage in the development of a new CPD in 2017. – The extension will also enable UNICEF to accelerate and sustain the results agreed upon in the 2012-2016 CPD that were impacted by Typhoon Haiyan.

UNICEF-assisted country programme	Original programme period, including previous extensions	Period proposed for extension	Reasons for extension		
			In-country development	United Nations harmonization	Implementation or other issues
Senegal	2012-2016	2017-2018 (two-year extension)	The two-year extension is based on a request by the Government to extend the UNDAF until 2018. This coincides with the end of the first Five-Year Priority Action Plan (PAP).	The request for an extension will allow the UNICEF country programme to harmonize with the UNDAF.	– The Government adopted a new strategic plan in 2014, which includes a long-term vision for 2035. The main instrument for implementation of the plan are the Five-Year PAPs, the first of which covers 2014-2018.
Yemen	2012-2015 (Previously extended to 2016)	2017 (one-year extension)	The 2012-2015 CPD was extended to 2016 based on the uncertain political situation, the extension of the Government's Transitional Program for Stabilization and Development and the extension of the UNDAF. Due to the ongoing conflict, the country has not been able to formulate a new development plan.	A second one-year extension will allow for continued alignment and coherence with the UNDAF, which has been extended until 2017. The UNFPA country programme has already been extended to 2017; UNDP will also request an extension at the June 2016 Executive Board.	– A United Nations system-wide Level 3 emergency was declared in July 2015.